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News for South Carolina Libraries  
can now be viewed online from the  
State Library's web site:  
<http://www.state.sc.us/scsl/>

ISSN: 0146-1842

# News

For South  
Carolina Libraries

Vol. 33, No. 1

January/February 2001

## Ticket To Read To Go Statewide

The public library card campaign, *Ticket to Read*, aimed at elementary school children, will run from February 26 to April 13, 2001 throughout South Carolina. The announcement will be made at a press conference on February 20 at Forest Lake Elementary School in Columbia.

The *Ticket to Read* campaign was piloted in the spring of 2000 in six counties. Over 1,650 children obtained new library cards during the pilot period. The campaign is co-sponsored by the South Carolina State Library, the South Carolina Association of School Librarians and local public libraries. Contributing organizations include McDonalds, South Carolina Department of Education, South Carolina Educational Television and Radio, Step into Reading and the University of South Carolina.

Each public elementary school in the state will receive colorful brochures for every student touting the benefits of having a library card, as well as posters for the classroom and a teacher handbook. Public libraries across the state will also receive posters and brochures. Public libraries and schools will work together to make this campaign a great success.

The State Library will work with McDonalds, SCETV and USC in spreading the message across South Carolina. McDonalds will promote the campaign with specially designed trayliners in every McDonalds across the state and will provide coupons for children who get new library cards. Ronald McDonald will be the star in one of the public service announcements produced by SCETV. Also agreeing to appear in TV and radio announcements are Leeza Gibbons, poet-performer Glenis Redmond, USC basketball star Alex English and USC sports announcer Charlie McAlexander. USC Sports Marketing Department will promote the campaign during the basketball, baseball and softball seasons.

Fewer than half of the children in South Carolina have library cards, meaning that the majority of our children are unable to take advantage of the limitless educational resources and activities that public libraries have to offer. In his 1999 State of the State Address, Governor Hodges stressed the importance of children having library cards. He was right: a library card is a ticket for children and adults to read.

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# From the Director...

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James B. Johnson, Jr.

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The General Assembly included a proviso in the FY01 Appropriations Act that created the *South Carolina Access to Information Technology Project*. The purpose of this legislation is to determine methods and costs associated with providing individuals with functional impairments access to government information via technology. The South Carolina State Library is a member of the Access to Information Technology Coordinating Committee charged with implementing this budget proviso. Other agencies on the committee include the School for the Deaf and Blind, the Office of Information Resources, the Public Service Commission, the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and the University of South Carolina. Legislators on the committee are Sen. Phil Leventis and Rep. Rita Allison.



Five sites are being established throughout the state with appropriate computer hardware and software to provide access for citizens with functional impairments. The State Library's Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has been selected as one of these sites. Additional sites are the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind in Spartanburg, as well as undetermined sites in Charleston and two rural counties.

One of the outcomes of this study will provide the General Assembly with information they need to determine the cost to state government of complying with soon to be promulgated regulations of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1998.

While the South Carolina State Library is part of the pilot program, all libraries need to be concerned with the implications of Section 508. Library webpages, at the very least, will need to be accessible to people with disabilities, especially those with vision impairments. The state webmasters committee is currently studying this issue and has already surveyed agencies concerning the time and cost required of making their most popular webpages compliant. It is also conceivable that to comply with Section 508 all public and academic libraries might need to provide accessible workstations.

The emergence of the World Wide Web has provided a wealth of information to library users. It is up to librarians to ensure that all patrons benefit from this new technology, including those with physical impairments that do not allow them to access this technology without the provision of special hardware and software.

# News from Around the State

## **Anderson County**

Carl Stone, director of the Anderson County Public Library, was recently named chairman of the Anderson County First Steps Partnerships Board for 2001.

## **Charleston County**

"Chemistry is Electric", a traveling exhibit from the Chemical Heritage Foundation, was hosted by the Charleston County Public Library from October 7 through November 30. The exhibit was part of a two-month celebration of the rich heritage of chemistry in the Lowcountry. It was sponsored by the Friends of the Library; Rhodia, Inc; South Carolina Section, American Chemical Society; WW Share and the College of Charleston.

The South Carolina Aquarium recently launched a community outreach program in partnership with the Charleston County Library. The Library Pass Program offers library cardholders an opportunity to sign up for a limited number of complimentary admission passes to the South Carolina Aquarium. As part of the program, over 3,000 tickets will be given away during the first year.

## **Dorchester County**

The Dorchester County Library has recently installed Library-GUARDIAN Internet Access Control System on its public computers. The system provides four levels of Internet access from which adults can choose for themselves or for the children under age 18.

## **Florence County**

The Florence County Public Library celebrated its 75th anniversary on November 12 with an afternoon celebration that included lectures, dedications and a reception. Dr. Walter Edgar, Director of the Institute of Southern Studies at the University of South Carolina, spoke about "The Patriot: Hollywood and History." Following Dr. Edgar, Eugene N. Zeigler dedicated the Pee Dee Writers

Collection project. The collection will reside in the South Carolina Room at the main library. A reception followed on the second floor mezzanine area. The event was sponsored by the Friends of the Florence County Library.

## **Pickens County**

Pickens County Library Director Marguerite Keenan is pleased to announce that the county has decided on a site to construct the new Easley library. Council members unanimously approved purchasing 9.065 acres on Calhoun Memorial Highway to build the new facility.

## **Richland County**

John Baker, member and former chairman, of the Richland County Public Library Board of Trustees, received the Association of Public Library Administrators (APLA) Library Trustee Award at the recent South Carolina Library Association meeting.

## **South Carolina State Library**

Guynell Williams, director of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, received the highest award given to a sighted person by the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina (NFB). Ms. Williams was given the Distinguished Service Award at the group's annual convention. The NFB is one of the major advocacy groups for the blind in South Carolina.

## **Sumter County**

Sumter County voters rejected a one-year, one-cent sales tax that would help to expand the current Sumter County Public Library. The tax would have raised approximately \$7 million, with \$5 million going toward the library project. Voters rejected the measure by a 53 to 47 percent margin.

# Trustee Spotlight

Maria Macaulay's interest in libraries started in her childhood with her great aunt Anne Reese Locke, who worked for the Richland County Public Library. "I have always been interested in libraries because of her influence," she said. Since that time, Mrs. Macaulay has devoted much of her time to the Oconee County Library and now serves as the Chairman of the South Carolina State Library Board. "We are pleased to have someone with Mrs. Macaulay's interest and participation in libraries appointed to the State Library Board," said Jim Johnson, director of the South Carolina State Library. "Her background will help lead the State Library into the next century."



According to Mrs. Macaulay, the great challenge to libraries comes from the influence of the Internet. "The challenge is that we have to let people know that libraries are still about books and personal service." She reflects that what she has enjoyed most about serving on the State Library Board is seeing first hand what libraries do, how they meet their challenges and the role they play in their communities.

She is the founder, former president and current member of the Oconee County Friends of the Library and served as the chairman of the Oconee County Library Board. Until recently, she was a substitute teacher at Walhalla High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of South Carolina. She is married to 10th Circuit Court Judge Alex Macaulay and lives in West Union.

When not involved in library activities, she is active in the Walhalla Presbyterian Church, where she plays the handbells. Her other hobbies include gardening, reading, walking and playing with her two-year old granddaughter Maria.

## State Library Hosts 3rd Annual Trustee Institute

**January 19-20, 2001 -- Sheraton Columbia Hotel & Conference Center**

The theme of this year's Institute is "Libraries: Building a New Future", focusing on the daunting problems and exciting possibilities for public library trustees. The Institute seeks to focus on real problems which board members and library directors face every day and to develop practical solutions to those problems. Sessions include *Building Better Boards* and *Building Better Relationships Between Boards and Their Directors*; *Parliamentary Procedures for Boards* and *Building Community and Local Partnerships*.

**For more information about the Institute, please contact Curtis Rogers,  
Continuing Education Coordinator, (803) 734-8928 or Email: [curtis@leo.scsli.state.sc.us](mailto:curtis@leo.scsli.state.sc.us)**

# The Need to Improve Our Libraries

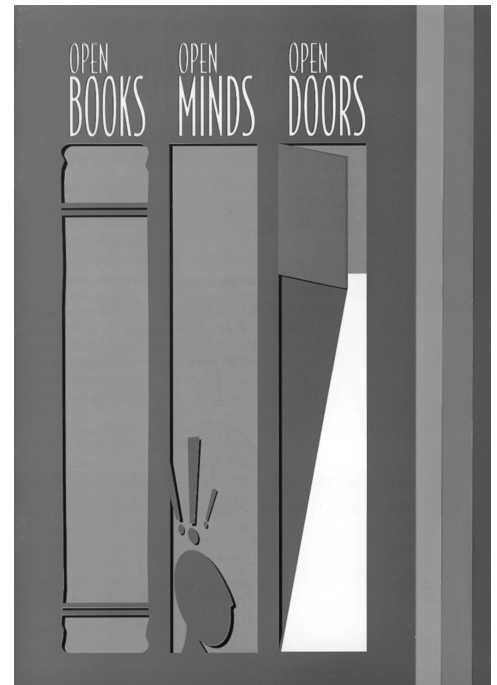
The annual Hennen's American Public Library Ratings were released in the November 2000 edition of *American Libraries* magazine giving South Carolinians reasons to be both proud and distressed at the state of our libraries. On the plus side, the Richland County Public Library system was rated fourth nationally among libraries serving populations from 250,000 to 499,000 and sixth among all urban facilities serving populations 250,000 or higher. Also receiving above average ratings were the Charleston, Lexington, Greenville and York county systems.

However well these individual systems are doing, the larger problem is that library services simply are inadequate in South Carolina. The study ranks South Carolina ahead only of Tennessee and Mississippi. The ranking took into account such factors as library spending, circulation, staffing and the number of books and periodicals per capita. The spread of the Internet to South Carolina's public libraries should help advance public education, literacy, awareness and general learning; however, our libraries also need more of the fundamentals: staff, books and adequate buildings.

To correct these deficiencies, the Association of Public Library Administrators (APLA), has launched a new \$3.6 million dollar legislative campaign called "Open Books, Open Minds, Open Doors." The campaign calls for more state funds for library construction/renovation, children's services and an expansion of DISCUS. This will be a yearlong effort by library directors, trustees and Friends' groups to educate legislators on the importance of libraries in their communities and the continuing need for their support. This is especially important this year because of the budget cuts facing state agencies, including the State Library. A 15% cut will include a reduction in state aid to libraries. This means libraries will provide fewer resources and services to their patrons.

Again, APLA will sponsor the Legislative Day Luncheon at the Clarion Townhouse on March 7, 2001. It is imperative that those who support libraries encourage their legislators to attend the luncheon and impress upon them the importance of public libraries to their communities and to South Carolina.

For more information about the "Open Books, Open Minds, Open Doors" campaign, please contact Dwight McInvaill, APLA Legislative Committee Chairperson, Georgetown County Library System, 405 Cleland Street, Georgetown, SC 29440. Telephone (843) 546-2521, Email: [dmcinvaill@georgetowncountysc.org](mailto:dmcinvaill@georgetowncountysc.org).



**Lucinda M. Kress, Director of Public Information, South Carolina State Library**  
**Telephone (803) 734-8647 or Email: [lucinda@leo.scsli.state.sc.us](mailto:lucinda@leo.scsli.state.sc.us)**



# Literary Humor Symposium held at USC

Nancy Washington, Director of Publications for University Libraries, University of South Carolina



Left to right: Calvin Trillin, Fran Lebowitz, Roy Blount, Jr. and George Plimpton

George Plimpton, Calvin Trillin, Fran Lebowitz, and Roy Blount Jr. combined forces to entertain and enlighten attendees at a November 1 symposium about humor in literature held in Longstreet Theatre at USC. The Thomas Cooper Library, Center for Literary Biography, Department of English and the College of Liberal Arts sponsored the symposium.

Plimpton used several quotations about writing and writers to spark insightful and amusing comments from the panel members. Overall, the writers agreed that while it is difficult to define humor, humor is often universal in character. Blount and Trillin gave examples of humorous situations which grew out of specific ethnic or historical conditions, but which brought chuckles from all audience members even though they were not members of the groups involved. Plimpton has developed close ties with USC in the past few years serving as chair of the libraries' Center for Literary Biography. He is well known as editor of *The Paris Review* and for writing and/or editing about 30 books.

The other panel members are also celebrated authors and humorists. Trillin writes columns for *Time* and *The New Yorker* and has published several books including *Uncivil Liberties*, *With All Respect*, *If You Can't Say Something Nice*, and *Enough's Enough*. Lebowitz is the author of two best-selling books, *Metropolitan Life* and *Social Studies*. She is also a columnist for *Interview* magazine. Blount writes mostly short humorous essays which have been collected in such books as *Now Where Were We?*, *Not Exactly What I Had in Mind*, *About Three Bricks Shy of a Load*, *Crackers*, and *What Men Don't Tell Women*. He appears regularly on the PBS radio show, "Prairie Home Companion."

An appreciative audience gathered in the Longstreet Theater for a special evening performance of *Hemingway and Fitzgerald: A Correspondence*. Mr. Plimpton wrote the two-man play based on the book by USC Professor Dr. Matthew Bruccoli. John MacNicholas of the USC Department of English appeared as Hemingway, while Mr. Plimpton took on the role of Fitzgerald. The letters read to the audience detailed their various writing projects, the events and colorful people that dominated their lives.

**For more information, please contact Ms. Washington at (803) 777-2166  
or Email: [Nancyhw@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:Nancyhw@gwm.sc.edu)**

## **2001: A Library Odyssey SCASL / SCLA JOINT CONFERENCE**

**Claudia Myers, Library Media Specialist, Hanahan High School, Berkeley**

Plans are well under way for the South Carolina Association of School Librarians (SCASL) and the South Carolina Library Association (SCLA) Conference with entertaining speakers, informative sessions, the latest products from vendors, and opportunities to network with professionals in diverse library settings. The Joint Conference Planning Committee hopes that your plans include meeting with us at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center March 15 – 17, 2001. The Call to Conference was mailed to you in December which should give everyone ample time to obtain professional leave and make reservations at one of the four conference hotels.

The committee is delighted to announce that speakers will include First Lady Rachel Hodges discussing the popular "Reading with Rachel"; Kee Malesky, the reference librarian for National Public Radio; and Robert Rosen, a respected historian and author from Charleston. Winners of the 1999–2000 South Carolina Book Awards – Annette Curtis Klause, Edward Bloor, and Diane Stanley - are planning to attend and receive their medals at the Book Awards Brunch on Saturday, March 17.

"Applications to Present" are still coming in, and those I have read thus far sound wonderful! For media specialists there will be concurrent sessions about practical ways to integrate Internet resources into the curriculum, information literacy practices in all levels of libraries, teaching media literacy, weeding those out-of-date resources, using children's literature to teach writing techniques, the role of the library media specialist in meeting curriculum standards, becoming a mentor and internship supervisor, and more. Sessions not related to school libraries include, library advocacy, space planning for public libraries, libraries and their role in the community.

**For more information, please contact Ms. Myers at (843) 820-3710  
SCASL/SCLA Joint Conference questions: [mcmmyers@BellSouth.net](mailto:mcmmyers@BellSouth.net)**

## **SCYPS to Focus On Programs For Babies At Joint Conference**

Programming for Babies will be the topic of the Services for Children and Youth in Schools and Public Libraries Section (SCYPS) of the South Carolina Library Association's meeting at the SCASL/SCLA Joint Conference on March 15 – 17 in Myrtle Beach.

The speaker will be Gayle Libberton, Children's Services Manager at the South County Regional Branch of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. She offers a thriving series of programs for babies of various ages at her library.

A number of public libraries in South Carolina have begun to offer programs for babies. In the last few years, other libraries in South Carolina have realized that this is a wonderful way to introduce reading and the library to parents and their babies. Greenville County Library's Children's Department has been doing programs for very young children for years.

# 2001 American Memory Fellows Institute at Library of Congress

The American Memory Fellows Program is now accepting applications for its 2001 sessions. The Institute is an excellent opportunity for outstanding teachers, librarians and media specialists to work with the Library of Congress to better understand how primary sources can enrich the learning experience of students in grades 4 through 12.

This yearlong professional development opportunity, the cornerstone of which is the Institute, will be held in Washington at the Library of Congress in two six-day sessions: July 15-20 or July 22-27, 2001. The American Memory Fellows Institute sponsors 25 two-person teams of exemplary grade 4-12 educators for their stay in Washington. Teams will attend only one session; however, to be eligible for consideration, teams must be available for both sessions. To apply, use the form found online at [learning.loc.gov/learn/amfp](http://learning.loc.gov/learn/amfp).

**Applications must be postmarked by February 26, 2001. No email, fax or disk-based applications will be accepted.**

During the six-day institute, Fellows will work with Library of Congress staff and consultants, examine both actual and virtual primary source artifacts – photographs, maps, graphic arts, video, audio, documents and texts – plus learn strategies for working with electronic primary source materials. Following the Institute, Fellows will continue to develop, refine and test their teaching materials with other colleagues and students. American Memory Fellows, as mentors to their professions, are also asked to share their knowledge with other colleagues throughout the nation at workshops and seminars.

## Selection Criteria:

- Have frequent access to and a high level of comfort using the World Wide Web, email and other technologies
- Have experience using primary sources to motivate students, promote their critical thinking and help them connect history to their lives
- Are active leaders in their fields, or have the ability to disseminate their expertise to teachers or librarians in their community and region
- Work with student populations that are diverse (by region, income, race and ethnicity, language or ability)

Notification letters to all applicants will be mailed the week of April 23, 2001. Send inquiries to Andrea Savada (202) 707-8148 or Email: [asav@loc.gov](mailto:asav@loc.gov).





South Carolina's Virtual Library

# Advisory Committee Updates

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The South Carolina State Library welcomes new members to the three advisory bodies that guide **DISCUS – South Carolina's Virtual Library**. Jim Johnson, State Library Director, made the appointments, which provide representation from schools, colleges and public libraries.

The **DISCUS Advisory Council** provides guidance for the overall planning, implementation and evaluation of DISCUS. Promotional activities and long-range planning have been its most recent focus.

**New members** are:

- ◆ Mary Jo Dawson, Director, ABBE Regional Library
- ◆ Jacqueline R. Ridings, Media Specialist, Emerald High School.

The **DISCUS Database Assessment Committee** guides the State Library in selecting and evaluating databases. Over the past year the group conducted a user satisfaction survey, advised on the selection of databases added in August, and made database renewal recommendations for 2001.

**New members** are:

- ◆ Sandra Hughes, Head of Reference, Charleston Southern University
- ◆ Stephen C. Smith, Director of Reference Services, Spartanburg County Public Library
- ◆ Robbie Van Pelt, Media Services Coordinator, School District of Greenville County

The **DISCUS Technology Assessment Committee** focuses on technology issues. The group developed a strategy for making DISCUS resources available from home Internet accounts.

**New members** are:

- ◆ Gene Brunson, System Administrator, Berkeley County Library
- ◆ Phyllis David, Director of Operational Technology, Kershaw County School District
- ◆ Lianne Hamilton, Systems Librarian, Trident Technical College

**For more information about DISCUS, please contact Mary Bull, DISCUS Project Coordinator at (803) 737-7736 or Email: [mary@leo.scsl.state.sc.us](mailto:mary@leo.scsl.state.sc.us).**

# Maintaining Talking Books Services Across State Lines

For public librarians, helping blind and visually impaired readers maintain talking book services as they move to or visit other states, enroll in out-of-state schools, or travel abroad may seem a difficult task. But, it is easier than most realize.

The free library program that provides recorded and Braille material is a nationwide network. Regional and sub-regional (local) libraries for the blind and physically handicapped serve all parts of the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress (NLS) administers the network. Once registered, readers may travel or move to any other state in the network and still receive services. For most readers, their first contact, in their new home state, is with a local public library. For this reason, it is essential that public librarians know the basic procedures used to provide Braille and talking book services across state lines. The South Carolina State Library honors such requests—including requests for the loan of playback equipment—for a period of six months. Establishment of this type of temporary service may be done by phone. In-person visits are not necessary.

When service is needed for longer than six months, a “patron transfer” is initiated. Network libraries request that their reading and certification records be forwarded to their new home state. Service continues uninterrupted. Students attending school for longer than six months outside of their home library’s service area may also take advantage of this process.

Even readers living abroad for more than six months may continue to receive talking book services. NLS supplies special playback equipment that accepts foreign current. Patrons visiting foreign countries for less than six months are served by their home libraries and may use their own equipment with an electrical converter.

Armed with this information, public librarians can answer basic questions about getting talking books for a son or daughter enrolled in an out-of-state school, continuing talking book services after leaving a state, services for citizens living abroad, and locating a similar service in other states. The NLS network provides true portability for blind and visually impaired readers. For more information about talking book services in South Carolina and throughout the country, visit websites [www.state.sc.us/scsl/bph/](http://www.state.sc.us/scsl/bph/) and <http://lcweb.loc.gov/nls>.

**Guynell Williams, Director, Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.**  
Email: [guynell@leo.scsl.state.sc.us](mailto:guynell@leo.scsl.state.sc.us) or call 1-800-922-7818 or 803-734-4611

# Carolina

# Calendar

***At freedom's door: African American founding fathers and lawyers in Reconstruction South Carolina.*** Edited by James Lowell Underwood and W. Lewis Burke, Jr. University of South Carolina Press, 2000. 269p. \$34.95.

Brown, Guy Story. ***Calhoun's philosophy of politics: a study of a disquisition on government.*** Mercer University Press, 2000. 435p. \$45.00.

Burriss, T. Moffatt. ***Strike and hold: a memoir of the 82d Airborne in World War II.*** Brassey's, 2000. 215p. \$24.95.

***Columbia, gem of the South.*** Community Communications, 2000. 224p. \$49.95.

Cooper, Jackie K. ***Journey of a gentle Southern man: reflections from the road.*** Abique, 2000. 168p. \$24.00.

Fuller, A. James. ***Chaplain to the Confederacy: Basil Manly and Baptist life in the Old South.*** Louisiana State University Press, 2000. 343p. \$49.95.

Glover, Lorri. ***All our relations: blood ties and emotional bonds among the early South Carolina gentry.*** Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000. 206p. \$39.95.

Hudson, Dale and Billy Hills. ***An hour to kill: a true story of love, murder and justice in a small Southern town.*** McGregor, 1999. 282p. \$24.95.

Russell, Linda H. ***My daughter, Susan Smith.*** Authors Book Nook, 2000. 304p. \$16.95.

Slocum, Robert Boak. ***The theology of William Porcher Dubose: life, movement, and being.*** University of South Carolina Press, 2000. 154p. \$24.95.

***South Carolina in the Civil War: the Confederate experience in letters and diaries.*** Edited by J. Edward Lee and Ron Chepesiuk. McFarland, 2000. 184p. \$28.50.

Taylor, David and Gary Henderson. ***The Lawson's Fork: headwaters to confluence.*** Hub City Writers Project, 2000. 144p. \$14.95.

Waldrep, George Calvin. ***Southern workers and the search for community: Spartanburg County, South Carolina.*** University of Illinois Press, 2000. 272p. \$55.00.

Compiled by Mary Morgan, Reference Librarian

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## January 19-20, 2001

Public Library Trustee Institute  
Columbia Sheraton Hotel

## February 1, 2001

Systems Manager Exchange  
South Carolina State Library

## February 9, 2001

State Residential Institution  
Librarians Interest Group Meeting  
South Carolina State Library

## March 2, 2001

Public Relations Information Exchange  
South Carolina State Library

## March 7, 2001

South Carolina Legislative Day  
Clarion Townhouse  
Columbia

## March 15-17, 2001

SCASL/SCLA Joint Conference  
Myrtle Beach

For local literary events,  
check the Palmetto Book Alliance Website  
<http://www.state.sc.us/scsl/lib./pba/html>

## South Carolina State Library Services

- Library Planning and Development
- Interlibrary Cooperation
- Services for State Government and State Agencies
- Consultant Assistance for Public and Institutional Libraries
- Services for the Blind and Handicapped
- South Carolina Library Network
- Reference and Information Services
- Interlibrary Loan Services
- DISCUS - South Carolina's Virtual Library
- Audiovisual Services
- Grants-in-Aid
- Continuing Education
- Technical Assistance for Library Construction
- State and Federal Documents
- Statistical Information
- Grants Research Collection
- ERIC Collection
- Computerized Databases
- Public Information Program
- Publications

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# News

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## News for South Carolina Libraries

is published bimonthly by the South Carolina State Library. Publication of this document was partially funded under the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the South Carolina State Library.

### Lucinda M. Kress, Editor

Please send articles and other information to be included in this newsletter to Lucinda M. Kress  
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